Dear Art Teachers:

I am writing to invite your students to participate in the 2022 Annual Congressional Student Art Competition. Each spring the U.S. House of Representatives sponsors an art competition for high school students. This nationwide competition provides students with an excellent opportunity to showcase their talent.

All high school students who reside in Florida's 16th Congressional District are eligible to participate in the competition. The 16th District is comprised of Manatee County and portions of Sarasota and Hillsborough Counties. If you live in Sarasota or Hillsborough County, please look up your congressional district on the U.S. House of Representatives website, www.House.gov, using your ZIP code +4 PRIOR to submitting your piece.

The deadline to submit artwork is 5:00 p.m. on *Friday. April* 22. Entries and paperwork should be delivered by appointment to one of the following locations:

Office of Congressman Office of Congressman Greater Riverview Chamber of Buchanan Buchanan Commerce 111 S. Orange Avenue 1051 Manatee Avenue West, 6152 Delancey Station St., Suite Suite 202W Suite 305 205 Sarasota, Florida 34236 Bradenton, Florida 34205 Riverview, FL 33578 941.951.6643 941.747.9081 813-234-5944

The entries will be judged by curators for the Ringling Museum of Art in Sarasota. The winning entry will be displayed for one year in the United States Capitol alongside artwork from every congressional district across the country. Depending on COVID-19 restrictions, the winner will be awarded a flight for two to Washington D.C to attend the Congressional Art Competition Reception

In a separate category, we will award a "Facebook Fan Favorite!" Beginning <u>Friday, April 29</u> we will be displaying all the submissions on my Facebook page. The piece that receives the highest number of likes and shares combined by 5 p.m. on <u>Friday, May 6</u> will be the Facebook Fan Favorite! The winner will have their piece hung in my Washington, DC office for one year.

Other entries selected by the curators will have their artwork on exhibit at the Ringling Museum of Art.

The guidelines for suitability and framing are enclosed. Please provide the completed Student Information and Release Form (typed if possible) for each piece of artwork with an attached label.

Please contact Chloe Conboy at 941.951.6643 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

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Vern Buchanan Member of Congress